QUEEN ALEXANDRA
LEAGUE OF CHILDREN
LORD MAYOR TRELOAR
CRIPPLES HOME & COLLEGE

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"They are weeping in the playtime of the others."

E. B. BROWNING.

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ALEXANDRA,
President of the Queen Alexandra League.

The Lord Mayor Treloar Cripples' Home and College.

ITS HISTORY AND WHAT IT IS DOING.

IN 1895, Sir William Treloar organised at the Guildhall a dinner for little Londoners, to which some of the poorest of the little children of the great city were invited. The work commenced sixteen years ago has been carried on ever since with increasing success. Last January, 1500 little Londoners, drawn from all parts of the metropolis, were received by the

THE HOME AND COLLEGE AT ALTON.

Lord Mayor and the Mayors of the London Boroughs, a striking tribute to the popularity of this happy function.

But it was known that there were a large number of the poorest children who could never accept Sir William's invitation to the Guildhall, because they were *crippled*. To give these poor little sufferers a gleam of brightness, Sir William Treloar obtained subscriptions to send a Christmas Hamper to each poor crippled child. At first only 200 Hampers were distributed, but gradually the number increased to nearly 7,000. Sent out under the eye of the Lord Mayor for the time being, they have always formed a feature of the Christmas festivities of the City—and the Hamper Fund for many years received the sympathy of his late Majesty King Edward VII., who gave annually £10 10s. to the Fund. This generous help is being continued by His Majesty King George V.

But this work, excellent and necessary as it is, was felt by Sir William Treloar to lack permanence. It brought a little joy to dull, sad lives, but did nothing to remove the cause of pain. A sad feature of the "Hamper Fund" is the alarming death rate among the crippled children which it brings to one's notice.

The most frequent cause of death is some form or other of tuberculous disease of the bones or joints—an acutely painful and terrible malady which, if not treated in the earliest stages, either kills or permanently deforms its victims.

These little sufferers require a long and most expensive treatment if they are to stand any chance of recovery. The

CRIPPLED: ARRIVING AT THE WARDS.

large hospitals, with overwhelming demands on their accommodation, cannot retain the children long enough to secure a permanent cure, and the home life speedily undoes any good work which the brief treatment has accomplished.

Sir William and Lady Treloar therefore resolved that when they entered on their year of office at the Mansion House they would make a strong appeal for help to found a Home for children suffering from surgical tuberculosis. The appeal was most successful, and over £60,000 was subscribed. At the opportune moment, Sir William was informed that the Princess Louise Hospital at Alton, Hants, which had been built from the proceeds of the "*Daily Mail* Absent-Minded Beggar Fund"—no longer needed for convalescents from the Boer War—was vacant, and of no use to the War Office

authorities, who were quite ready to transfer it to the cause of crippled children. A special Act of Parliament was passed, handing the whole estate of 68 acres, with its buildings and plant, to Sir William Treloar and his co-trustees, the Lord Bishop of London, the Hon. H. Lawson, M.P., Sir Ernest Flower, J.P., and Sir William H. Dunn.

THE HOME.

The Home is on the outskirts of Alton in a most beautiful district of Hampshire and is reached by the London & South Western Railway, being some 47 miles from London. The

CURED; READY TO RETURN HOME.

Estate is on the side of a hill facing due south and open to the health giving breezes blowing direct from the English Channel. The Estate includes some five acres of beautiful woods and ten acres of market garden from which fresh vegetables and fruit are supplied to the little patients. The buildings are of pitch pine, erected on stone supports rising out of a concrete floor.

Fresh air together with a liberal diet consisting of pure milk, eggs, vegetables, with poultry or meat are the best aids to the skill of the doctor, and the good results which have followed this treatment at Alton are most gratifying.

Since September, 1908, *over* 500 *crippled children, under the age of* 12 *have been received,* 212 *remain now in the Home, and of those who have left,* 270 *have returned to their homes cured, strong and well.*

A visit to Alton is a revelation of real happiness where it would scarcely be looked for. Children, deformed, lame, in strange plaster jackets, or in long narrow beds, are bright, brimful of laughter, rosy and fat, and their recovery is a source of wonder and delight to all who see them.

A very popular and unique feature at Alton is the well-known school in the Queen Alexandra wood—an open-air school, where all children who can make the journey spend many happy and healthful hours.

Those confined to the wards receive individual instruction during the afternoon of each day. Thus children, once too weak to learn, now receive such elementary education that when they leave cured, they can take their places beside

Five Little Patients in the Home.

healthy children without feeling painfully handicapped through their illness. The Home and College at Alton are open to children of all creeds and special arrangements are made for the spiritual teaching of all the inmates. Services are held for those children whose parents belong to the Church of England, and also for those who are attached to the Church of Rome. Those little ones whose parents worship in connection with the Nonconformist churches have a service each Sunday afternoon conducted by the ministers connected with the local Free Churches in Alton. In addition a Jewish Rabbi from Aldershot visits the Jewish children.

The nurses belong to different religious denominations, so that in case of sudden sickness or emergency a child in the

Home will have the comfort and sympathy of one belonging to the faith and creed to which he or she belongs.

THE COLLEGE.

In conjunction with the Home, an effort is made to give technical instruction to crippled boys of 14 to 18 years of age, so that they can earn their own living.

Few sights in our London streets are sadder than the number of crippled lads who are trying to eke out a bare existence by selling newspapers, flowers, or toys. Few will

GOING TO CHURCH AT ALTON.

employ or teach these youths, and without some help they are likely to succumb to the evil influences which surround them. The lads live in the big building near the entrance to the estate, where they do their own house work. The chief trades taught at present are leather bag making, fitted case making, boot repairing and tailoring.

The object of the College is to build up these lads physically, to teach them a skilled trade, and, above all, to give them a manly tone in their outlook upon life, and to teach them not to whine over their physical deficiencies, but to face the battle of life with confidence and courage.

The success of the work in the College has been very encouraging. The lads have proved themselves eager and apt pupils and their skill at their trade has been most marked. The excellence of the leather goods, their workmanlike finish and the variety of styles, win the admiration of all visitors to the College.

It is most interesting to watch the lads drill. Without a tremor they do their Indian club and dumb-bell exercises with a precision which would do credit to lads possessed of all their powers.

THE NEED FOR HELP.

The Home and College are entirely dependent on voluntary contributions. There is only a very small income

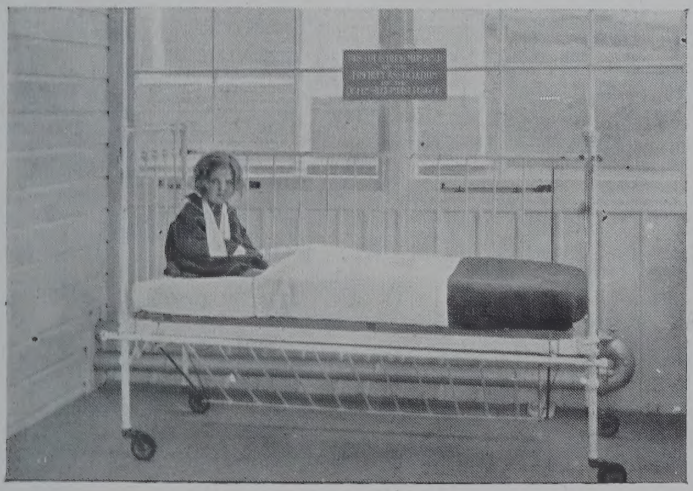
STARTING FOR PLAY.

from investments, and the cost of maintaining the Home and providing for the feeding, clothing and treatment of the children is very heavy. The disease is one which yields very slowly to treatment, and the instruments, plaster jackets, and the medicine which the cripples need cost a great deal. Frequently a stay of two or more years is necessary before success is attained, but the results fully justify the founding of the Home.

The thought of a crippled child unable to join in the games and joyous romps of childhood appeals strongly to boys and girls who are rejoicing in happy and healthy life. In order to enlist the sympathy and aid of these friends of the crippled the Queen Alexandra League has been formed.

THE
QUEEN ALEXANDRA LEAGUE.

The object of the League is to bring all, especially happy and healthy boys and girls, into a close bond of sympathy with the children who are crippled and needing help, and from the very first Queen Alexandra has given a very practical support to the work Sir William Treloar is doing for crippled children. Her Majesty is President of the League which bears her name, and all members of the League will have the happiness of knowing that they are promoting the interests

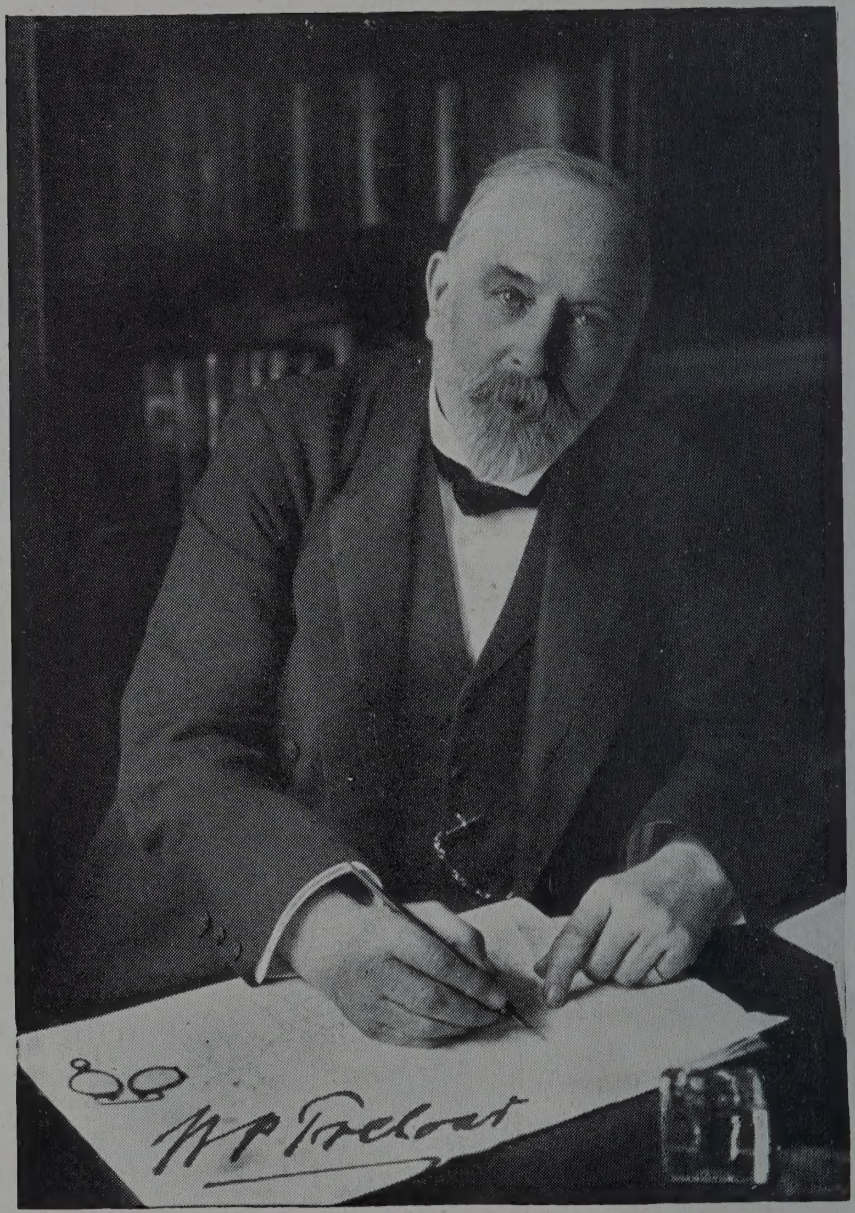


A Cot Supported by an Association of the Queen Alexandra League.

of a movement which she has closely at heart, and which she will be delighted to know is appealing to the widespread sympathy of all boys and girls.

The grateful "Thank you" of a poor suffering child to whom you had given an opportunity to get well again will make you feel very happy and proud that you are a member of the Queen Alexandra League.

It is hoped that every child in the Empire who is well will become a member of the League, and if YOU have not already joined, PLEASE DO SO NOW.



Sir William P. Treloar, Bart.

The Queen Alexandra League is open for membership to all boys and girls without any restrictions of birth, station or age whatever, for all who subscribe or collect the sum of one guinea per year become members.

Girls and boys who wish to join should obtain the consent of their parents first, and then either write to, or call upon Sir William Treloar, Queen Alexandra League, 61, Moorgate Street, London, E.C., for a collecting card.

The card is a very attractive one, and information is given on it of the striking success of the work at Alton. Boys and girls are asked to obtain subscriptions from their

Six Years in Bed. Can now Walk.

relatives, friends, and acquaintances. The claim of a crippled child, when urged by a sympathetic little helper is certain to receive a generous response. Some of our friends have given valuable aid by earning small sums of money by deeds of kindness and assistance, while others have planned nursery concerts and sales, small entertainments and garden parties. Nothing has been more encouraging than the delightful ingenuity displayed by some of the members of the League in their kindly endeavours to help their crippled brothers and sisters. The first card and the sum raised should be returned within *three* months of the date of issue, but collectors are urged not to retain the card after it has been filled, but at once to return it with the money collected

and ask for another card. The second and all subsequent cards should be returned within *six* months of the date of issue. It will be of great assistance to the work of the Home if members would do their best to return the cards promptly either to the Local Secretary or to Sir William Treloar.

A new card cannot be issued until the previous card and money collected have been sent in.

When a guinea has been collected and sent to the local Secretary, or to Sir William Treloar, a Badge (which has been approved by Queen Alexandra and which bears a copy of her signature) will be sent. A facsimile of the badge appears on the cover of this booklet.

A Bar will be given to wear above the medal for each subsequent year in which a guinea or more has been collected or subscribed.

A special and distinctive bar will be given to all members who recruit *six or more new members*. This bar will be sent to the member when six guineas have been collected by the recruits. Most valuable work can be done in this way and it is hoped that all will try to gain this additional and beautiful decoration.

Will you please persuade all your friends to join the League, and to do everything you can to assist this work?

HAYMAKING AT ALTON.

PLEASE FILL THIS UP AND POST IT TO

SIR WILLIAM TRELOAR, BART.,

QUEEN ALEXANDRA LEAGUE,

61, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.

DEAR SIR,—I should very much like to become a member of the Queen Alexandra League, and, with my parents' (or guardians') consent, would ask you to kindly forward me a collecting card, and a packet of picture post-cards giving views of the Home at Alton, and I will do my best to help.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Please state if you have previously collected.....

AN APPEAL TO LADIES.

Associates of the League.

The Queen Alexandra League is NOT confined to boys and girls, and the help of adults is most earnestly solicited. A very neat and attractive collecting card has been prepared, which can be easily carried in a lady's handbag or in a gentleman's breast pocket. The older members of the League can become *Associates* and continue their assistance when they have ceased to be " children," and it is hoped that many ladies and gentlemen will be willing to collect among their friends.

Crippled Lads at Football.

"Companions of the League."

Ladies in all localities are earnestly asked to form Local Associations, and in their leisure time to do all that lies within their power to promote the benevolent and philanthropic purposes of the Home.

All the necessary particulars and details will be at once sent on application to the Secretary, Queen Alexandra League, 61, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.

The aim of an *Association* is to raise each year the sum of £35, and in this way to maintain a cot in the Home at Alton. When this is done the Lady Companion of the League is presented with the Official Badge.

Companions of the League will have the pleasure and privilege of being specially interested in the particular child in the Home to whose support the annual contributions of the members of the Local Association will be devoted. Both Companions and Members are invited to visit the Home,

THE COLLEGE BOYS AT CRICKET.

and to freely correspond with the child identified with their Association.

Companions of the League can give very valuable help by—

(1) Receiving all collecting cards from their District and issuing new ones as required.

(2) Remitting all monies in hand to Head Quarters at the end of each month.

(3) Communicating with all children whose cards are overdue.

(4) Arranging from time to time reunions of their members, in order to maintain their interest, and by securing new helpers for the Home.

And whenever possible, by

(5) Arranging, at least once a year, either a Drawing Room Meeting, Concert, Entertainment, or Sale of Work, so that public interest is aroused and increased support gained for the Home.

(6) Planning an occasional Lantern Lecture, illustrating the work at Alton. Full information concerning this lecture will be supplied on application.

One of our Patients suffering from Spinal Curvature.

The Queen Alexandra League.

RULES.

1. The object of the League, of which Her Majesty Queen Alexandra is President, is to assist the Lord Mayor Treloar Cripples' Home and College at Alton, and to promote the well-being of poor crippled children in the United Kingdom.

2. *Members*—Boys and Girls who collect or subscribe one guinea or more annually. *Associates*—Ladies and gentlemen who collect or subscribe one guinea or more annually. *Wardens*—Members of Local Committees who assist in superintending the work of the Members and Associates. *Companions*—Ladies who undertake the work of Secretary to Local Associations raising not less than £35 annually.

3. Each Member or Associate will be presented with the Badge of the League on collecting or subscribing one guinea. A bar will be added for each subsequent year in which a guinea or more is collected or subscribed. Each Member who subscribes or collects £5 and upwards will be presented with a $16\frac{1}{4}$ in. by 24 in. autograph reproduction in mezzogravure from Mr. Tennyson Coles' painting of Sir William Treloar which is now in the Guildhall. Lost badges can be replaced at a charge of 1/6.

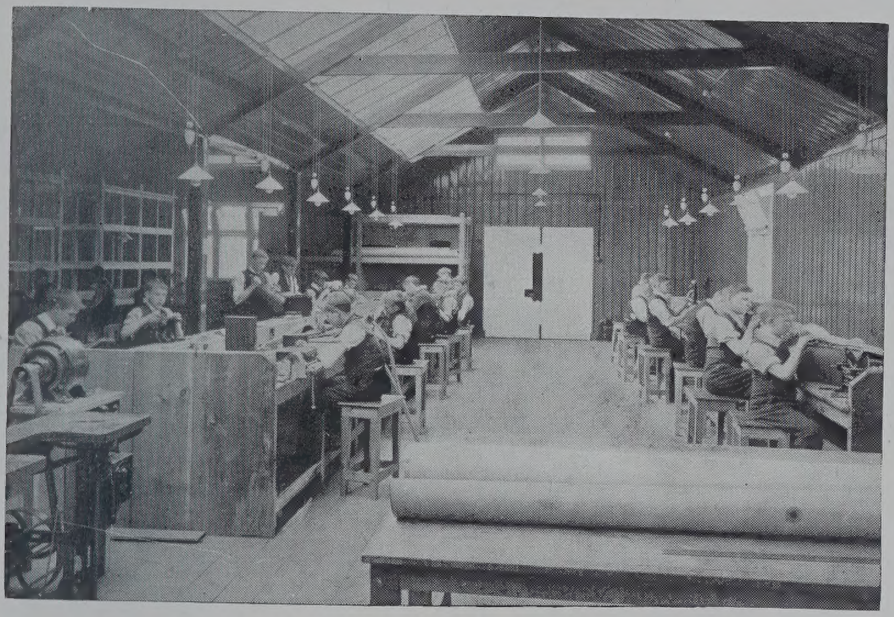
4. A special bar is given to Members who recruit six or more other *members*. The bar bears the words "Special Service," and is given when six guineas have been collected by the recruits.

5. Companions of the League will be presented with an Official Badge, and a cot at Alton will bear the name of any Local Association contributing £35 a year.

6. Any suitable cases nominated by a Local Association will receive special consideration. Such case if suitable will be admitted as early as possible and the child will be placed in a cot bearing the name of the Association which maintains it.

For Collection Cards apply to—

SIR WILLIAM P. TRELOAR, BART.,
QUEEN ALEXANDRA LEAGUE,
Moorgate House,
61, Moorgate Street,
London, E.C.



THE LEATHER WORKSHOP.

COLLEGE LADS AT DRILL.

KING EDWARD VII MEMORIAL COT.
THIS COT HAS BEEN ENDOWED
BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
QUEEN ALEXANDRA LEAGUE OF CHILDREN
(RESIDING IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD)
IN LOYAL AND SINCERE MEMORY OF
A GREAT & NOBLE KING
AND AS A TOKEN OF THEIR DEEP
SYMPATHY AND AFFECTION FOR
THEIR BELOVED PRESIDENT.

THE KING EDWARD VII. MEMORIAL COT.